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ANDERSON DISCUSSES WORLD FARM PROBLEMS

Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson discussed three of the world's major agricultural problems before the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization.

Price support commitments for farm commodities: "If each of us tries to fulfill these commitments independently without regard to the need for expanded world trade^{or} the agricultural problems of other nations, we are all in danger of repeating the mistakes that followed the first world war."

Adjusting agricultural production to peacetime conditions: "During the war, farmers of the United States increased food production by more than a third. Our amazing increases in agricultural production during the war were not achieved without far-reaching distortions in our farm economy. The distortions were the result of our efforts to meet urgent international needs, and there is every reason to believe that necessary readjustments will have international implications."

Employment and trade: "We must maintain a high level of industrial employment if our farmers are to prosper, and that high level will be difficult if not impossible to maintain without a progressive expansion in international trade."

DAIRY PRICES MAY DROP SLIGHTLY

Because of weakening demand, prices paid dairy farmers in 1946 are expected to average slightly less than in 1944 and 1945, the USDA says.

However, market specialists see no indication of such a sharp price decline as occurred in 1921.

U. S. WOOL INDUSTRY NEEDS MORE OUTLETS

One of the greatest immediate needs of the American wool industry is increased market outlets, the Department of Agriculture reports. At the same time,

USDA specialists predict that American wool growers can expect keen competition from synthetic fibers and from wool produced in other countries.

Supplies of foreign wool have increased tremendously during recent years. Imports of apparel wool increased from ten percent of U. S. production during the 1930-34 period to 20 percent in 1935-39 and 150 percent in 1940-44.

Lower prices of rayon staple fibers also mean keener competition.

KIDS MUST EAT

More than 20,000 New Mexico boys and girls in 175 schools are eating hot lunches every day under the State school lunch program. And Robert D. Coppock of the Production and Marketing Administration predicts many more schools will participate in the program before the year is over.

"In fact," Mr. Coppock says, "reports indicate that this year's school lunch program will set a new high for New Mexico."

CONSUMERS WILL PAY MORE FOR BUTTER

The consumer--and not the farmer--will bear the additional cost of butter following the removal of the five-cents a pound government subsidy November 8. The retail price of butter will advance five or six cents a pound.

CONSUMERS MAY CUT FOOD BUDGET

Although national income in 1946 may be about 15 percent less than in 1945, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics believes consumers will spend only from five to ten percent less for food.

"This prediction," a BAE spokesman said, "is based on current trends and information. Large unemployment in the cities is only one of several possibilities that could upset the estimates."

THAT'S A CASH REGISTER YOU HEAR

Farm income may set a new high this year. For the first nine months of 1945, total cash receipts from farm products ran about three percent above 1944 income. At this rate, the year's total would amount to more than \$20,400,000,000, as compared with the record 1944 income of \$19,800,000,000.

POTATO CEILINGS STILL SUSPENDED

The suspension of potato ceiling prices will continue until December 5, OPA has announced. Ceilings on potatoes have been suspended since September 14, when the Department of Agriculture estimated the 1945 crop at 433,000,000 bushels, considerably above requirements.

DEMAND FOR CHICKS DROPS

Because most markets are now well supplied with poultry meat, commercial hatcheries can expect a sharp decline in the demand for checks, according to the Department of Agriculture. Hatching of baby chicks was at a record high during September.

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